

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

An integrated circuit and method for providing a switchover from the primary power source to the secondary power source to prevent a volatile element from losing stored data. The integrated circuit includes a forced power source switchover circuit for detecting that the supply level of the primary power source drops below a predefined threshold level. A  
5 switchover circuit on the integrated circuit initiates a switchover operation based upon the forced power source switchover circuit detecting that the supply level being received from the primary power source drops below the predefined threshold level. The detection by the forced power source switchover circuitry may occur on a signal level that transitions faster than a predetermined negative rate of change. The integrated circuit may be incorporated in  
10 any system having volatile elements, such as memory or a clock.